
Invitation

for

Course on Security Sector Reform (5 days)

3-7 March 2025 in Stans, Switzerland

Background

The Swiss Federal Department of Defence, Civil Protection and Sport (DDPS) cordially invites you to this course on SSR for both military and civilian personnel. The five-day course will be organized together with DCAF's International Security Sector Advisory Team (ISSAT) and will take place at the SWISSINT Training Centre of the Swiss Armed Forces in Stans-Oberdorf, from 3 to 7 March 2025 (arrival on the 2nd March 2025).

Course description

This five-day course aims to provide participants with knowledge and practical tools for Security Sector Reform (SSR). It touches upon the holistic nature of SSR and covers dimensions related to human security, access to justice, and good governance, with a focus on the link between people-centred and state-centred security and justice. The course will be held in English.

Target audience

The course will target practitioners working on the provision, management and oversight of SSR programmes. It is also aimed at people involved in programme design, management and implementation, mission planning and delivery and/or policy dialogues. This includes state and non-state actors: civilian, military and police personnel.

Course objectives

- Demonstrate understanding of SSR processes including principles, objectives, actors and tools;
- Recognize the relevance of SSR in different contexts and settings (mission and non-mission settings),
- Illustrate the linkages between SSR, human security, human rights, and access to justice;
- Apply a gender and inclusivity lens to SSR processes;
- Illustrate SSR prospects and challenges through case-studies;
- Design an SSR related intervention through a strategic planning group exercise;
- Reflect on Swiss and international approaches to SSR

Learning methodology

The course will be facilitated by DCAF staff with SSR knowledge and expertise, as well as extensive experience in facilitation. The five-day programme will help participants understand the challenges related to SSR in practice. The course methodology is aimed at adult learning, which means that it focuses on participant engagement, experience sharing, and practical application. The interactive and peer-learning setup includes a series of hands-on exercises, simulations, and group activities. An inductive approach throughout the course places participants at the centre of the learning experience. Therefore, all participants will be required to dedicate each day fully to the course.

The course includes the following components:

Before the course

- Participants need to complete a pre-course survey.

During the course

- Participants will complete a daily evaluation form.
- Social and networking opportunities will be offered to participants, alongside the communal meals.

At the end of the course

- A certificate of attendance will be provided upon course completion.
- On the last day, participants will complete an end-of-course survey to evaluate the course. Approximately 6 months later, participants will be asked to complete a long-term follow-up survey.

More details on the course's program will be provided after completion of the selection process.

Application and selection process

- Up to 25 participants will be selected. The course aims to form a group with diverse professional, organizational, and personal backgrounds.
- Please fill out the [online application form](#) and send an updated resume by **13 December 2024** to: issat.training@dcaf.ch.

Logistics and Accommodation

Full board will be provided at the SWISSINT Training Centre: Kasernenstrasse 4, 6370 Oberdorf, canton Nidwalden, Switzerland.

The course will begin on Monday 3 March 2025 at 08:00, and end on Friday 7 March 2025 at 13:00. The course will begin on Monday 3 March 2025 at 08:00, and end on Friday 7 March 2025 at 13:00. **Participants are requested to check-in at the SWISSINT Training Centre on Sunday 2 March 2025. Accommodation at the SWISSINT Training Centre is provided from Sunday 2 March to Friday 7 March 2025**

Travel and visas

Travel expenses, visas (if required) and insurance remain the responsibility of the sending institution/participants. Visas should be requested no less than one month prior to the training. The DDPS can provide a letter of support to complement your visa application. If you need a letter of support or have questions about your visa request, please contact the DDPS once your participation has been confirmed (see hereunder). Participants arriving at Stans train station will be picked up and transported to the base.

More details about the logistics will be provided after the selection process.

Contacts

For any questions on the course's organization and logistics, please contact:

DDPS/SWISSINT

Asher Fisler

Cell phone: +41 (0) 79 599 59 25

Office phone: +41 (0) 58 466 68 87

E-mail: Asher.Fisler@vtg.admin.ch

For any questions related to the course's content, please contact:

DCAF's International Security Sector Advisory Team – Professional Development and Training

E-mail: issat.training@dcaf.ch

You can reach us via our generic email above, or contact:

Eleonora Dan – e.dan@dcaf.ch

Floris de Klerk Wolters – f.deklerkwolters@dcaf.ch